Seattle M1272 containing M1271

Sunday Eve. Oct., 15, 1967

also New York Oct., 15

ARCHIVE COPY
Must Remain in
Transcription Room

I listened to part of the tape last night. In the beginning I'm very glad I heard and it is very interesting up to the point to where I telephoned from New York and I hear Andy again answering the same I heard when I was there and here I am again. I can give you a little bit more of a first hand report now of the event, because I think for a little while that is upper-most in our mind. It was very interesting to see all the different things that were connected with it and of course in the first place, to see whatever damage there was. Also how different people took it and how concerned they were. As we were quite lucky. I think you know, because we don't know what it is - I've been thinking about it and what puzzled the fire Marshall was a hole in a corner of the room right next to the desk. They didn't know, of course, what the situation was and where the different things were which burned but apparently the shelf which was filled with tapes, tapes of ourselves and tapes that had come in from different groups - it fell over apparently towards the desk and spilled all the tapes right at that spot and, I think, many acetate tapes being there created an enormous heat and burned into the floor, and I think that is the reason why there was that hole. The marshall thought that was where it started. I doubt it very much. I think it still started with a leaky gas pipe and the pilot light in the water heater and from there spread over towards the desk instead of the other way because that part where the water heater was and part of the kitchen was also completely burned out. Not as much heat - the floor was all right but the other part where that deep hole was the floor was gone and the beams underneath were charred. I think that was the explanation. That whole wall went out and those that have seen that office perhaps can visualize it. When we got there last night it was a good thing to see it with a flash light because I didn't see everything and it served as a good introduction for this morning to look it over and the yard was filled with debris partly from

the floor and all kinds of papers that had been shoveled out and they had gone through that and will have to go through it again with a fine-tooth comb to find what might be salvageable of all the different papers that were - I'm quite certain that a lot of it is lost, and we will probably we able to replace some of it and some of it cannot be replace so it has to be for whatever it is. ( ) was there talking to the fire marshall to see if he could give him information because the inquiry was; what happened this and that people, maybe the communists, and maybe it serves them right and all that kind of - junk. So, he ask if he could make a little report. I have it here and I want to read it. It's a little, perhaps, personal but is very good and it's very honest. And, this morning, we talked. The main reason for going was to try to see what their attitude was and also to see what we had to do and perhaps to help them and the attitude of how to look at it. Also that is our little tape and we'll play that after I've read this report. I think I'll start right with that. It's a little lengthy but it is interesting.

Report of events of October 14, 1967, 165 Lexington, New York.

Several of the member of the Group had agreed to meet at 8:00 AM on this day to drive to Warwick, New York to help Lou and Sally (Castagno) to move to new home in Northern New Jersey. Two cars had been found from members of the Group for transportation. Two Volkswagons owned by ~~George~~ Burr Hollister and Greg and Mary Good. Greg and Mary had agreed on thursday after movements to call Lou and Sally and tell them it would not be necessary for Lou to make the trip to pick up members as two cars would be available. As it subsequently was learned, however, Greg was unable to contact Lou with the message. I arrived at 165 Lexington Ave., at 7:50. Just as I walked to the door two residents of the hotel next door came toward me to say that they had smelled smoke glancing up at the meeting room on the second floor we saw smoke curling out and around windows. I asked the hotel residents to call the fire department which they did. I then fumbled with my keys and had difficulty opening the front door. Once it was open I had further problems in opening the door to the meeting room.

When I finally opened this door to the meeting room , heavy dark smoke billowed out causing me to gasp for air and to retreat down the steps part of the way. I also heard a crackling of flames and dropping down low and crawling up the steps I was able to get to the door. I could hear the flames in the rear of the building and vicinity of Mr. Nyland's office. I stood up to try to get to the light switch just inside the door, as it was dark inside. When I stood up I again choked with smoke and dropped to the floor. At this moment two thoughts came to my mind almost simultaneously to try and salvage what I could of Mr. Nyland's important papers and to find ~~Merium~~ Miriam. I realized that ~~Merium~~ Miriam must be upstairs sleeping and might be overcome by smoke. I began to yell for her but it caused me to inhale more deeply and choke at this point I became fearful for my own safety and I felt I might lose consciousness and I retreated down the steps once more. I then thought of the door bell and began to ring it. Two passers by on the street came to the door and I asked them to ring the bells while I advanced up the steps. Again I reached the landing and I had to decide whether, amidst the smoke and the heat; it was now startling; to go to the third floor. I made my decision - it was made by my feelings, I was afraid - afraid I might collapse on the steps by smoke inhalation or if I reached the third floor then I might cut off and not be able to return to the back door, in short I was afraid dieing and returned to the sidewalk. It was now 8AM and I heard fire sirens. I looked around to see if anyone else from the Group had arrived and I believe that ~~Bill~~ Burr Hollister was the first person that I saw. I then looked up to the garden on the second floor and saw that ~~Merium~~ Miriam was there. I yelled to her to use the fire-escape in the rear of the building but she said that she could not. Shortly after this the first fire-truck reached us. It must have been 8:05 by now and they first attempted to put up a long extension ladder based on the fire-truck but this was awkward and they then placed a one piece ladder in place which reached to the north wall of the garden. ~~Merium~~ Miriam seems quite collected and controlled during all this and quietly accepted the help of the fireman who had climbed the ladder and who had led her down. Barry Sax and Greg and Mary Good joined us at this point and we watched as a series of

explosions blew the windows out of the meeting room spewing splinters of glass in all directions. Lou and Sally Constantino then joined us as Greg had been unable to reach them by phone the night before. At about 8:15 or 8:20 Miriam suggested that we go to the rear of the building - she indicated her concern about Margaret and Ralph Rosenberg about whom (I had not thought). We went to the rear of the building and by this time the firemen had fought their way to the rear of the building breaking the windows in Mr. Nyland's office and throwing things down to the ground. I suggest that several things would immediately be considered:

I. Getting to Mr. Nyland's office to salvage what we could of the tapes, resumes, transcriptions and Firefly.

2. To get oriental rugs to dry cleaners.

3. To think of a good place for the meeting on Tuesday. Possibly at Bill Henniger's appartment.

4. Storage for the items we could rescue once the firemen would let us in.

Lou suggested that we should contact Mr. Nyland at once and he went to do this. About 8:30 we were joined by Eddy (Wax) and some time before this, Jerry Boxer arrived. Paul Stegmen and Carol Bloome both of whom had come to clean the Index arrived between 8:30 and 8:45. I attemped to gain entrance to the building sometime before 9:00 but was turned back by the firemen. Margaret and Ralph Rosenberg who had escaped out on the ajoining roof of the building next door came to the sidewalk still in their night clothes. I was unexpectly moved by their appearance and kissed Margaret who said they had been awakened by the ringing of the doorbell. As they were somewhat cold in their attire I volunteered to go across the street and get coffee for them and cigarets for Sally who was visibly shaking as she lit her last cigaret. When I returned Lou and I negotiated with the firemen who let the two of us go upstairs. It was now some time after 9:00. My first (sight) on entering the meeting room was of the charred piano and for the photographs that had hung on the wall. A large pool of water covered the floor in front of the door to the meeting room as you entered and I sloshed through it and turned left. Mr. Nyland's office was totally destroyed. The sky-light having collapsed and walls were pushed out. I looked to the left

wall and saw resume cards and files still intact and began carrying them down. I made several such trips while Lou was talking to the firemen and records, tapes, resumes and files were dispatched to the other people on the stairs who were waiting on the sidewalk and in turn were taken to where Greg and Lou's cars. The firechief eventually approached and asked what I was doing and who I was. When I explained that I was a member of a group that used the premises he insisted that I leave. This I did. I left to be interviewed by the representatives of the police department, fire department and others. Lou had been in contact with Mr. Nyland and then to a corner near by to use the pay telephone to report the extent of the damage to him. After further negotiations with some of the dignitaries and consultation with the owner of the building, Mr. Wilhelm, three or four of us again began to remove materials from the room. We were again stopped by the firechief but shortly after this, around ten o'clock, ten-ten, the firemen left and the principal investigator permitted us to continue our work. Don Wehn ~~Wade~~, who had come for the mail made an appearance here. Sally told me that portions of Firefly and the third series had not been found and that we should try to find them. At about eleven o'clock I went with Barry Sa[illegible] in Lou's station wagon and deposited the contents in my apartment. On my return I found various members of the group sifting through the debris in the rear of the building. Bits and pieces of tapes, books, resumes, and transcriptions were found and put to the side. Most of the tapes with the tape-recorders had fused or melted in the intensity of the heat. Still no sign of the Third Series. For the next two hours we continued to sift through the debris and at one o'clock I went with Mary Good and B. Holister who left me at my apartment and who proceeded to Mary's apartment. I made an inventory of the contents of my apartment and returned to Index at about three PM. I found on my return that Mr. Nyland had made plans to return in the evening so a dozen or so members of our group decided to retire to Don Wehn's apartment near by to have dinner and await Mr. Nyland's arrival. Consultation with firemen and inspectors could only indicate that the fire appeared to have started in the vicinity of Mr. Nyland's desk

and not the water-heater, gas-heater or stove as might have been expected. The beams under the floor beneath what used to be Mr. Nyland's desk were burned half way through. The left corner of the office which housed the water-heater, etc., was relatively intact. I must say that my first thought was that ~~Merium~~ Miriam might have left the gas-heater turned on or a candle lighted as I have discovered in the past but ~~Merium~~ Miriam tells me that this is not the case. I asked ~~Merium~~ Miriam if she had left the air-conditioner on thereby over heating the wires which pass under Mr. Nyland's desk but when we check the position of the dials we found them to be off. As this report is being written, Wesley and Rhoda Goulding have just arrived at Don Wehn's apartment. Present are Tom and Julie Harris, Barry Sax~~o~~ ~~Burl~~ Burr Holister, Eddie ~~Wright,~~ Way, Jerry BOXER, Lou Castagna, Paul SHEGMAN Miriam ARONIE, Mary Good, and Iam?, Dena Goldman, and at the burnt-out Index are SALLY CASTAGNO and Gregg Good. Members of this group are being phoned to inform them of the arrival of Mr. Nyland this evening, and the meeting tomorrow Sunday at nine a.m. Plans are made for a meeting Tuesday at the Good's. As of this time at six p.m. the origin of the fire is not understood. (signed) -THOMAS RECORDS.

It is now 6:30 and Wesley has proposed a toast in Armagnac to the continuation of Work and the help of Mr. Nyland. To this I should add the following: Before beginning this writing which was promped by Lou Castagna, I consulted the I Ching. It produced the hexagram number 35, Chin, PROGRESS, which in turn led to the hexagram number 2, K'un, the receptive. Hexagram number 35 shows above, Li, the cleaning fire below the receptive earth. The hexagram represents the sun rising over the earth. It is therefore the symbol of rapid easy progress which . . . . at the same time more and moreover widening explosion and clarity. Hexagram number 2. Applied to human affairs therefore, what the hexagram indicates is additions ~~and~~ IN conformity with the situation. If he knows how to meet fate with an attitude of acceptance he is sure to find the right guidance. The superior man lets himself be guided. He does not go ahead blindly, but learns from the situation what is demanded of him and Then follows this information from fate. Since there is something to be accomplished, we need friends and

helpers in the hour of . of trial and effort. Once this idea to be realized once the ideas to be realized ~~affirmly that.~~ are firmly set. That's the end of the report. Now you know a little bit more detail and it is as I say, it's like a blow to blow account of what happened actually yesterday morning. So, we looked at it last night and then this morning, practically everybody came at nine o'clock. We sat upstairs, that is on the third floor, which was not very badly damaged, only in the back part was a little too much water, and the walls were very bad, but the front was alright, and the windows were out, but there were plastic covers on it, and there we sat in the midst of all the debris that had been brought up from downstairs, trying to salvage it and going over it and that was of course what we will do. We talked a little bit as I said to establish a good kind of relation or perhaps a basis on which we could start work or continue in a certain direction and profit by whatever happened. I think we will play that tape now, Andy.

A. Alright. (Tape)

It's really very good. Its a blow by blow account and some personal remarks and it records to some extent what the feeling is when you are confronted with something that has danger - you will not know what to do. And you are in conflict. Should I do this or that? And then you try and you cannot. Then is important in one there try to save this or that. Or should I save my life? And it is really from that standpoint and Tom wrote it so simply. And it's quite beautiful because so seldom do we have a chance to have that kind of an experience. But this is the way you have to look at all of this now as an experience that somehow or other comes to us. And I would - we could say it's a good omen. And maybe it's true. Maybe it's an indication that we ought to get away from it. And all it is is simply to tell us to get out quick. Much , don't loiter too long. So we will take it as such. But you see, there are two things. One is acceptance of whatever has happened. You

can philosophize, you can think, why - who - that - causes - and all the rest. That's fine when you have time to think about it and it is very amusing maybe and to some extent it's maybe elucidating because in that kind of a process of thinking what has happened you may uncover certain things at that time while we were living quite joyfully downstairs, that maybe we overlooked certain things - one - let's say insurance - why didn't I insure it? But there are other things that protect me, therefore it was of value and to keep it in a certain place so that we always could have it. But that is only one section of it that is bringing it up to one point where all this happened, and now we are here and now we use it. It's an opportunity. I don't call it a blessing in disguise. I don't think it's a blessing. I think it's a terrible thing. There is not question about it. There are various things that are lost, some irreparable. We can get over it of course. We needn't be attached to it. We can say,"All that is material form, and when it is destroyed, then we have to build a new form. What should not be destroyed is spiritual value. And whatever there is in all of us together of spiritual value, that remains. And on that is based really a very beautiful expression of all of us getting together. Maybe it's a good thing I came from the coast. I have to go again at twelve o'clock because I don't want to interrupt the plans over there and it is not necessary for me to be here because you will all have a certain task. But the spiritual value, it is there, and has come out now and is still now with us. It is really a very beautiful thing to see because as a group, there is a group, there is an understanding. There is a compassion. There is a very definite consideration of everything and all the facts that are involved. And I think we have to keep on looking at that - not of the past and blaming us or blaming this or that kind of a condition. Who knows what brought this about? Because these are laws that we don't know very much about at all. And to some extent they are - probably the results of certain conditions, also the condition we

try to build up and understand and which you understand maybe very little every once in a while the indication points in a certain direction but at the same time by wanting to find out what it is as a spiritual event of something that has a meaning for us we will gradually by concentrating on that and not concentrating on the loss and not walk around with a terrible sad face, but simply to take it for what ever it is and simply to say, "Alright, there is life in it". That's the most important thing. It doesn't matter whatever the forms were, we build them if we wish, if we need, that is the thing we have to keep in mind, and the next couple of weeks you must never lose track of that particular necessity. You must keep going and to see what you can extract from it whatever there is to be extracted and to take it and to use it you might say as food. You have to digest it. You have to know. And then you will think clear - what is right and what is wrong and not to worry. Don't ever worry about anything that is a material question that we have to ask. Don't worry. We can always build life again, as long as we ourselves are alive. What we can replace, what is still there, from all different corners and people who have this and that, we will put together. If we can, we will find things. There are some things lost, I know. And also that, I'm not worried about. For instance we had the third series there. It is burned up. There are a few sheets. Maybe there a some other things that I still have in Brewster. That loss is a little bit bad. And at the same time, I'm not worried about it either because if it can be - somehow or other it will be replaced. The other things - the tapes - meeting tapes we have duplicates of, it doesn't matter, I think, we can always talk. And the same thing applies to music. There were several tapes of music. They were the only ones. Mostly of the last series. Also that we can play again. The other things - some we have - the subject file - some material for Firefly - a few things that I happened to take with me on the trip, we will patch it all together.

Some of you will have to go quite carefully through what is left, whatever is still readable, or charred, to save it. This place up here will be the point from where you work. Gradually you'll have to clear out downstairs, and if we find a new place for which we will look immediately, we can then transfer it to over there. What we will do with this place and how long we will have to hold onto it, I don't know. So let's talk a little bit in ordinary language of what is to be done. A few of you again will have to take initiative. What I always call the elders. Everything you do has to be done in cooperation. Again the same thing applies as the rules for a meeting. Don't get angry. Try to be considerate, and work honestly. Real honestly. And whatever someone does, be glad that someone is doing that. And you do whatever it is that you can do. for yourself as well as for the rest and building up something during the period that I will be away. As I say, I don't want to change the plans too much because too much is dependent on it, and it would be of very little use let 's say to cut it short, because we have started something and it has to be finished. And in the meantime you are here by yourself. Meetings on Tuesday will be held for the time being at Don Wehn's. It's in the neighborhood so not everybody will know about this, you can leave a note on the door so that you can still catch it in time in Tuesday, come over to the meeting. That is one of the main reasons. As far as Work on Saturday is concerned, It is now Work-day everyday for anybody who has the time to spare. During the day there is no light, maybe we can get some lights,John, from Wilhelm if we can connect it with the electricity. Again and again you have to sift throught the things that are downstairs, in the yard, I understand yesterday you worked the whole day on it, and there is already a great deal that is not covered that we know, all of that, try to put it on lists. That is, see what we have, what we don't. If there is time, send it to me, I can look it over, and try to remember what I think was here or there, what ought to be attended to now, and what we gradually will have to acquire again and again.

Several notices and different things that I've listened to of other groups, They are all gone. Maybe there are some copies, . All their tapes of course are gone. It doesn't matter. The tapes of our meetings from about 25 on, they are gone. I think we have duplicates of all, fortunately we make many duplicates, so we can recover them, maybe one or two, if we had only one tape like on a Wednesday, they may have been - I don't know. Maybe they are lost. But we'll find out. Tom, you will take care of this And Bill has to take care of whatever is salvageable of the recorders. I already have two offers from Andy. Immediately he placed two recorders at our disposal, so we will not worry about that . We will build it up. Gradually. It will cost us money. We don't make a mistake about it. But this will join us together. If it is worthwhile, it points very definitely to the possibility of going out to the country and starting our so-called farm or school there. Where it will be and in what direction I do not know yet. It is difficult to decide and there are many factors that are involved some of which you know and some you don't know, but we will find something. In the meantime we will have to have a little place or a rather sizeable place, down-town, any place at least for another year there will be a meeting once a week. There has to be a contact with New York. We cannot give it up, even if we want to move to the country and even if the emphasis is going to be more and more in the country, we still will have to have the contact with the poaaibilities here in New York and draw from New York, probably, certain people who could come. I've said enough about what the aim is of being there, trying to form a certain background of some kind, so I won't go into detail about that. It doesn't matter. We have to have a place, and I think five or six people should look around in different sections of the city, so that you can collect data, to find out, and whoever wants to volunteer in their neighborhood where they live, probably is the simplest. They they simply look around or contact

some agent - but there has to be a clearing point. And, I do not know, how much time have you John? And Wesley? Who is real estate-ly inclined?

Ans: I'll try to

N: Yeah. You don't know much about the city. Moreover you're out of Huh? You can get yourself. I would say a little - a group of about three clear, and ten others who look around in the field. And now its reference to New York. Let's get a place that is large enough. You know the kind. I do not mind in what particular section of town, provided we have parking place somehoe or other for cars, but that even they have taken away from us. So, it gets to be time we get going. I hope to be back by the middle of November. In the meantime you have to contact me for anything that is important that you believe that I should know or that perhaps I can help you with or set you straight if there is any particular doubt. As far as cleaning up here is concerned. It will be necessary to see what is the attitude of Wilhelm, our landlord and owner of the building, how long we can keep this or want to keep this place here, its a storage space for downstairs - downstairs, I think ought to be cleared up as soon as possible. If we find a place within a reasonable time to take big things like the and then move over otherwise we have to take care of that also. There are certain things in cars I understand from the report. Some are at your place, Don. I think gradually they should be brought here in all . Barry has started to make lists of things that we have and a few of you have to get together to see what is there and again - put down what there is and also what kind of condition - not readable - too charred - and so forth you can throw out. Whatever is left, that we can - particularly the subject file - I am interested in that. And naturally transcriptions. Fortunately with the transcriptions, everybody who did one, and typed one, could keep a copy. So all of that is still available.

What we have to do simply is not to take it away from such people, but to use them and then make our own copies. A great deal of work, typing, of all the different things we have been doing over the past, is gone. And it has to be redone. If it is useful to us. So such copies have to be collected again and again, and start, and you have to form a kind of a brigade, you know, a regiment it has to be systematized. So there is no duplication. And it will take quite some time. That is if we consider it important to do it, and this I would leave to you. As far as I am concerned, I have of course quite a different attitude towards it. I've talked many times about possessions. Some time ago, a few weeks ago I even said, "I do not know, perhaps I would destroy everything when I die". And of course that is to some extent a silly remark. But I want to indicate by that that as far as I'm concerned I'm entirely free. And I really don't care about anything that has happened. I don't care about anything that may not be here or still is here. If it's of any use to you it isnecessary that you use it. But as far as I'm concerned, it doesn't make any difference whatsoever. Because I've said a few times, I'm absolutely ready to leave this earth at any time. So for that reason I have no desire for possession, I have no particular fears, I have not any kind of a attitude of sorrow. I think it is a very good thing for all of us to come to conclusions about what is your life going to be and that your aim has to be to become free because this we always talk about. That kind of a freedom from the bondage of earth. If too many things tie you down still its a good thing to see that mother nature simply takes it away. There you are without it and then what will you do? This is what I mean that you have to keep this in mind, regarding working here. You salvage what you can to the best of your ability. But constantly for the sake of gaining freedom, and don't ever get lost in identification with what your doing. What you're doing is to help. While your attitude in this ordinary life, in this kind of an event has been placed, you try to realize in using that you wish to be free from it. It's a difficult thing probably to

understand. That although you are engaged and in consideration of all the other things you will do in order to maintain work, that work is maintained only by yourself. And that the attitude that you have towards it, whenever you Work, should be the freedom in using that what binds you. Well, whatever philosophy you can understant and whatever you can put to practice, it's again your own conscience that will help you. I'm very happy, really, I think it's a marvelous kind of a thing. And probably if we had it never would have happened. And not wishing it may have brought it about. And now it is there. Now we use it. To the extent that we can. So now its not a lecture is it. Not a meeting. We - who has ideas about what we should do now? Now to start, how to arrange it, what kind of thoughts have come to you in the last 24 hours? I will say this, yesterday at five o'clock I woke up. I don't know why. But you had eight o'clock here. 'Twas the time that this thing started. There was something that was not defined for me and I'm not that kind of a clairvoyant to say that there was a relationship but it was a very interesting things. Ten minutes later Lou called me, and then of course I knew. We are giuded. We are guided by certain things, I say, not always knowing what it is. Th e more sensitive, the more extra sensitivity we can produce, or be open to, the better it will be for all of us to understant each other and to place it in the proper way. We've started something regarding ideas of Gurdjieff. We are trying to maintain it. We are trying to do them - to attend to them in the right way. We still are trying day after day what is really meant and how we should Work and it is only by means of Working together that we will gradually understand more. Because there is no end. Understand what I mean. There is no end. One lives in infinity. One does not live in a form. Or rather life is in a form, but the form is not life. That what is in the form is alive and that is Infinity in any kind of a form regardless of any form and when it is necessary to make a form and to create it, even for that we create "I" partly as an image; partly as an entity, partly as something that starts to form as an intellectual conscious

body. Again, to be destroyed when the three different forces that are necessary for a balance has developed well enough that again that what is formed from all three is connected and that what comes out of it as a result has a different kind of property. This is the reason for forms existing. That they temporarily represent to the outside world that what is inside and that what is the essence of their own existences at times can be brought together. Again, I say, under the influence of a certain guidance of which we don't know very much and only perhaps that what is represented in the essential quality to the extent of that being Infinity itself. That then because of this, the forms which are then in accordance with the law of triamonia come together at a certain time in certain conditions with a willingness that that what is inside becomes free, frees itself from the form and goes over into a different level of being in which the form is changed into a different form to the extent that it is necessary and dependent on that level of being and that consequently out of which it came it can go into that again and again because life is Infinity. Look at this whole business. It brings us together. We can Work with it. If we do it well, it will never happen again. If we take it the way it ought to be taken, we are finished with this kind of experience and we will be ready for something else. Whatever it may be. I will think of you many times on the trip. And, you will have from the trip, I've brought the first tape, Friday when we got to Seattle, after having spent that last night in Spokane, we had a meeting of everybody, and that tape is here and you can listen to it. We had a meeting in Madison, strange kind of an affair, almost - there were not many new people, so it was as if - people simply went to Madison in order to have a little . But the purpose of - I was a little inclined of not talking - because - although it was very interesting and it was held at the so-called Friend House, Society of Friends, the attendance was not very much. And at one point, I was inclined almost to say, "Why should I talk?". So when you listen to that tape, it has a very definite

meaning for me. And when I attempt to put certain things in words, as if there were new people, and it gradually, with this in mind, it became for me maybe, something that can be used very well for Firefly. So that was the first tape of the trip. Friday the second one, tonight, another one, tomorrow, etc.,etc. accumulation of talks. A few ideas. Sometimes there is a different way of lighting it up. All of that, again and again, material. Material in a certain form. Constantly referring to Work. The necessity of waking up. The necessity really of the obligation of becoming conscious man. Again, to free oneself from this earth. To be able to leave it and to really to kiss it farewell and to be grateful for what it has given. Always to be grateful - for whatever it is that you have found. And that you have to experience. Whatever it has given you - the possibility of the development of a conscience. Consciousness and a conscience. Whatever it is that then at such a time creates a will in you. A will to want to leave as quickly because it has outlived its usefullness. This place has outlived its usefullness. We leave it. We leave it with a great deal of pleasure. No regrets. We have gained certain things from it. We will use it again and again. Maybe in different forms. Never look back. It will petrify us. Never identify with the past. Use it. Use the past as the soil in which you plant. It has no more use than that. To furnish in your life the possibility of the further development on top of the earth. Not bury yourself in it. Not having knowledge enough like an but really to know that it has a purpose and to find the purpose in this kind of liwing in - by planting a seed - the seed of consciousness - - remember we talked about this tree. The little brach of which was hanging above my desk . It can be replaced probably but it was also a very good . Ultimately all trees will be destroyed. And what will be alive - I would almost say as a bird that can fly away. What is in us that could be psychodynamic? There is maybe in the future we can have a conference. Somewhere. Quite away from the earth. And then

recall how once upon a time we had a fire at one-sixty-five Lexington Avenue. So, I leave you. Maybe we have some coffee, still. Who can volunteer to go across the street? At the expence of the burned house? Okay. (end of N.Y. tape)

So, that's the story of this morning. And now you can imagine them Working. I'm sure they Work today. And maybe they uncover a few more things. And maybe it's useful. I really do not know because the usefulness is only determined by the people who really are looking for something. And if then they find it in whatever material there is and perhaps recovered. Something that corresponds to their inner wish and will be useful to them. Just look at it as a mess that has to be cleaned up. Or they even do it for the sake of me. There is no use. No one should ever Work for the sake of something else. He only should work for himself. He should know where to look to build his own house. Maybe he should represent for himself a useful brain, which can be placed in the proper place for tomorrow which can become a house, maybe for a group, or a group of people who have an aim, who can even build a church and a steeple, pointed towards His Endlessness. What we get out of all of this of course is, "What are we trying to do?" and when a little calamity happens we are reminded that we were engaged in something and with that we have made some plans and charted a certain direction, and something happens when we start to realize what was this direction that we planned? Maybe we didn't take enough consideration that there were other factors that would effect us that we didn't know how to mind. There are many lessons that we can learn from it. It will bring us together if you understand it that way. Because it will mean that - whatever the meaning is in this kind of an event and experience, all of us have to consider. You here in Seattle are not free from it at all. You are part of it. Like everbody else is part of this life. The fact that it happens in New York, that's quite incidental. It can happen everywhere. As a matter of fact it does happen

everywhere. But you don't see it. We see it when there are flames. And certain things disappear. But you don't see it when you are the cause of it, or that you among yourselves, destroy a great deal. Because you're not enough responsible as yet. And that question of your responsibility simply means you don't realize what you happen to have. What is really your birth-right? What is it in life that is a man? And it should be kept as a man. What is it that you have as a relationships and that you don't keep them. And you destroy them. In ignorance. In the first place you don't know enough about what you really are. In the second place you build up agreat deal that is of no use whatsoever. And then you live with it. Because you say, "It is my manifestation". Or, "I need it". "I have to have it for my development". And to some extent, you're right. You need a little bit. How much? But you see, in doing that, in concentrating much too much on the kind of things you still believe you need because you say it's life, and you have to live your life, you have to live it almost out-live it. Live it out of yourself. Live it to the bitter end or the sweet end. And you forget. You forget that you kill - things in you that are much and much more important. Of course you kill the kingdom of heaven. You don't know it's within you. A thing of this kind helps one to realize what is really one's responsibility because with all your enthusiasm for ordinary life you can and burn and it destroys many many times your spiritual belief. You forget. This is what one can get from this kind of an experience. What is in a man that should be saved? Because you see what is really the point is first the admission to yourself that there is something worth-while to be saved. Or that there is - I've called it sometimes - a difference in two kinds of life: one, belonging to the earth as you relive it most of the time unconsciously, and the other - what has to be set free or what is potential beginning with the possibility of a spiritual development and continuing with a development of an inner life. I say you kill - with your outer life - you kill your inner life.

And it should be reversely. You shouldkill your outer life in order to make your Inner Life alive, really. The purpose of man - to live on earth is to become free from earth. The utilization of whatever it is that he has on earth, for the purpose of living in Heaven. Or creating now, Heaven for him on earth - and then he doesn't need any more to live any further on earth, because he has done his task. It is not always a conflagration. It is a fire that sometimes has just little - I call them tongues of fire - they are really tongues. They talk. It's that kind of alanguage. And still, such fire is necessary to destroy the things that are not needed, andthen to take their place and to represent for oneself the Holy Ghost. That's the means by which man on earth can free themselves. And it may be a little bit strange to say that it may be given to us, to experience, for a certain purpose, in order to realize what one really is and what one has been doing, and of course what one has done unconsciously. And it has to be brought to us consciously, what is it good for, for us to talk about Gurdjieff, and to talk many times about the ideas, and not to do it? And don't we in that way commit a sin? So, what will we do? Because, you are confronted in your conscience with a very definite question. That is why we talk about it every once in a while. Not too often. Also then the emphasis is for spiritual being also might become monotonous. But every time that there is a chance and at least once a day. I said the other day, talking about five minutes of that kind of a quiet silence this is really important to see, how do you get up? What happens to you? How do you take conditions like we now have? Definitely for a certain purpose, because we have a meaning in having a trip, coming to visit other people. So that they can encourage us, and that we can encourage them. And that a little story about a fire can unite us. The strength that ought to be now is possible. I say, "If one understands it correctly". I said this morning, "One knows that it is used in the right way we will have freedom". The possibilities of

life - of their being lived - if they are lived well - you're finished with them. The possibility of the totality of your own life, when you live it well, you can die. And it is the purspoe of not evading what you know in your heart you must face. And this applies to whatever you are doing in whatever direction you are going, that you look at it, almost I would say that in looking at it in such a way, that you devour it. That you eat it. That you do something with it. That you take it in. It sounds very much like preaching. And you must realize that it not a sermon at all. If you can understand it from yourself, you will know that you will put it in your own words, you don't need my words for that. You know it. All you have to do is to listen to it. And that you allow, at times during the day, perhaps such thoughts and such feelings become clear to you - "What am I doing? With what ever I have? What is it that is really needed? For me - and to what extent do I give in to a variety of things that are not at all necessary? But there are a few things that are absolutely necessary. That's the realization of your life. And the honesty with which you have to look at it. And the ability that you do have to make out of yourself a lighter form - a form that can even fly away like a bird. I said that the birds of the tree can have a conference. On a different level. But then you see it is not talk-talk. It is a song. It is music. Music is emotion. Music of course is a language. And a very delicate one. Very difficult to learn. Also that, we kill. Ordinary life takes us all the times. If one only can see this - how much we are bound, day after day with our own little bits of interest - and we keep at it, crawling, in the midst of all that what we call a little friendship and a little affection, and a little satisfaction, giving in to these desires of the body, and our ordinary organs of thinking and feeling - continuing day after day with payment to the personality - and it should not all go there. Otherwise we will never understand what is meant by Heaven on earth. Or Heaven within. I've been thinking about what to say at Reed College. Because there is a group of young people. And there are really

the fundamentals of Work. And to try to put it in such a way that it can be understood, and that it can remain simple, not high falutin, and no particular words that might even sound dogmatic or fanatic, to the simplicity, how to reach people who are just opening up to life, and they need something to help them, so that they can grow and how can we establish in a very short time, talking a little bit to them, a relationship of confidence that they are willing to listen, what can one do to undo all the different influences to which any kind of an unconscious person, young or old, always is exposed? How can one get at a certain time by means of what - a certain inroad into them, if there is a little bit of a response, and perhaps a kindling also of a fire, but this time, of quite a different kind? I'm glad you worked today. I hope you work again tomorrow. I was very happy to listen to the arrangements you made last night. And that you fulfilled them. Tomorrow again, don't be lazy. Concentrate as much as you possibly can in these days of things not only that have to be done, but that you wish to do them as you knowthat in doing them, you will fulfill the law of the Lord, not by talking about it or by sitting and thinking, but the actual doing. The application if you possibly can of certain ideas of awareness if you can remember, if you can come enough to yourself to see that whatever you are doing, painting, or fixing things, that that is also opportunity aft er opportunity to remember - why, why do you Work, really? Tomorrow evening we will talk again. But, about questions of work. You can think about it tomorrow if you like. Practical. Very simple, maybe a few tasks. Maybe some ideas to get over in reasoning, or rather to wake you up to the condition in which you are. That you become much more honest. On Tuesday we go. I do not know if we come back. We might - maybe - . If everything goes well, after the trip I'll be a little bit in New York. I hope to be back on the west coast at the end of January. Then I will stay a little longer. But with this change from 165 maybechanges also that kind of a plan. You know, you have to Work, very hard next year. Really. Very hard. And many of us have to Work. You know it doesn't

pay to stay away. And then come back after a little while. Almost when the dirty work of organizing and sticking together through think and thin has been done, and then come back and to profit. Now is the time to Work. Not tomorrow. One cannot stay away when certain things are going on. You cannot be free from it. It belongs to you. Not tomorrow. Today, it belongs. What's the sense of saying, "I first have to do this and this and this - and then I will think of my spiritual development"? It is such stupidity. Either Yes, or No. And to the extent that it is Yes, it depends on what you can do. And maybe there is such a wish and maybe the result is that you cannot do and it looks like "No". And at the same time your attitude has to be such that you belong to the possibility of all spiritual development on earth. Not just represented by yourself or a few other people you happen to know and sometimes you say, "I happen to like". Each person who is honest regardless if you like them or not, they belong to God. Maybe he created them exactly for that purpose that you will not like them. Like he created you or that you happen to be so that someone else may not like you. Who knows such laws? When we go by just a little bit of what we think is nice for us, and what we think in our so-called wisdom is right for us to do and in that pursuit we just close our eyes to what is probably is the most important point in one's life - the living in today - the living in the present. Not to hope for the future, and almost I would say not to know - not to feel that you are entitled to whatever is going to happen to your future unless now you prepare for it. And you will not prepare for it by postponing the possibility of spiritual life that at the present time cries for development in you. This is what I meant by the destruction of yourself. That's what Gurdjieff means by the disease of tomorrow. And I know you have to be reminded many many times, because you always will forget - that's the condition of earth, as soon as you don't keep your eyes open, they will fall asleep. The problem for all of us is how to keep them open. How to put as I call it sometimes

psychological match-sticks to keep your eyelids so that your eyes start to hurt because there is a wish for sleep. You will not allow the sleep to comes because you know you have to keep your eyes open. So look at this particular little period - a few days that we are here - look at it as something that is of use to you. You must use it. The fact that it happens is exactly as the fact of the fire. It also happened - because, we don't know why. But it has to be used. Otherwise it is so sinful to let it go by, and not to think that it has a meaning. Whenever you are exposed to ideas of objectivity, whenever you think that other things are a little bit more important, you miss the boat when you don't attend to them properly. I do not care what it is that you wish in ordinary life. You will get it. But first, the Kingdom of Heaven. After that, when you won a little objective, when one with - what is like a seed that is planted starts to grow, there's really very little that you have to do, only to attend to it, that life you know, that circumstances will not kill that kind of life, and it will have as a plant constant attention . This is Work on yourself. You be the gardener for that what you have planted. And when you have begun to plant it, you have to continue. If you don't continue, you have to do it again and again. And maybe under conditions that are much much worse and much more difficult for you. Settle the questions of today. Now. Today. That is why there is a today. They don't belong to yesterday and they don't belong to tomorrow. They belong to today. To settle them now. Tomorrow will be another day. Tomorrow will be today, tomorrow. Then you have other questions. Don't run away from them. Where else will you go? Tomorrow movements at six o'clock. And then 8 o'clock - how will we do it now with dinner first we don't run into any difficulties as we did today? Six to seven movements? Not enought time? Then we have to have meeting? When, Andy? Nine o'clock, maybe?

Thelma - We could have dinner ready - something simple we could put on when we get home, tonight we had to cook -

N: Well every person could prepare for it, they have to eat somewhere, I think

seven to eight is a little too short. They may have to go to different parts of town, you see. Better make it nine o'clock tomorrow?

The movements, you see six to seven movements. Let's make it nine o'clock for the meeting. And those who want to come here, movements at six, after movements you can go for two hours where ever you wish, and you come here and as I said we will talk about Work. You have to think what you wish to know, I'll try to answer whatever I can in the best way I can. It's going to be our last evening. So, make it count.

Good Night, Everybody.